Indo-US agreement on Textiles

1205. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-US agreement on Textilxes was reviewed and revised during the recent visit of US-Commerce Secretary; and

(b) if so, what is the revised arrangement and how far it represents an improvement over the earlier system?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) No, Sir. The Indo-US agreement on textiles was not reviewed during the recent visit of the US Commerce Secreary.

(b) Does not arise.

भागलपुर के रेशम उद्योग पर संकट

1206. **श्री जनार्दन यादव** : क्या **वस्त्र** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार में भागलपुर में स्थित रेशम उद्योग पर नई आर्थिक नीति का कुप्रभाव पड़ा है ;

(ख) अब तक कितने बुनकर बेरोजगार हो गये हैं ; और

(ग) सरकार उनके विकास तथा उन्हें बेहतर बाजार प्रदान करने के लिए क्या-क्या कदम उठा रही है ?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकट स्वामी) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) विभिन्न चालू योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत सरकार द्वारा सहायता प्रदान की जा रही है जिसमें अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ भागलपुर में बुनकर सेवा केन्द्र के माध्यम से डिजाइनों/बुनाई/रंगाई तथा संसाधन क्षमताओं को उन्नत बनाने में आवश्यक सहायता, उनके उत्पादों के विपणन के लिए उन्हें सक्षम बनाने के लिए बाजार विकास सहायता, क्रेता-विक्रेता बैठकों, मेलों तथा प्रदर्शनियों में भाग लेने के लिए आवश्यक सहायता शामिल है । सरकार ने भागलपुर से सिल्क होम फर्नीशिंग का विकास करने के लिए अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार केन्द्र, जेनेवा तथा स्वीडिश इन्टरनेशनल डेवलपमेंट एजेंसी, स्टाकहोम की वर्ष 1987 से 1992 तक वित्तीय सहायता से एक विशेष परियोजना भी कियान्वित की थी ।

Purchase of Handloom products

1207. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the arrangements made to implement the decision taken by Government in 1988 for purchase of handloom products for the use of the Central Government's Ministries, Departments and agencies on single tender system from the Weavers' Cooperatives notified by the Development Commissioner for Handlooms;

(b) what are the varieties of cloth with their quality and value of cloth annually purchased/consumed by Ministries, Departments and other agencies including the Public Sector Undertakings during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 (upto 31-12-1994);

(c) whether such consumers have purchased their notified textile requirements in full from the notified Weavers' Cooperatives;

(d) if not whether the failure of the Ministries, Departments and Public Sector Undertakings to purchase

the notified textiles from the notified Handloom Weavers' Cooperaive Societies has been brought to the notice of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs; and

(e) whether any Committee has been set up to review the implementation of the orders of the Government of 1988, if so, the members of the Committee and the contents of the latest review report of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Consequent upon the Government of India's decision to purchase handloom products for the use of the Central Government Ministries|Departments and Government Agencies etc. on Single Tender System (STS) basis, the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms had nominated Association of Corporations & Apex Societies of Handloom (ACASH) as the nodal agency for procurement and distribution of handloom products under STS. Letters are sent on regular basis to all Ministries and Departments for compliance and for placing indent directly with ACASH.

Office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms has notified 77 handloom agencies based on the eligibility conditions prescribed for the purpose. The requirement of indenting Ministries/Deparments are met by the notified agencies through ACASH.

(b) and (c) The main varieties of cloth consumed by the Ministries, Departments, Public Sector Undertakings etc. are blankets, blanketing cloth, Sarees, bed-sheeds pillow covers, turkish towel, honey comb towel, buck a buck towel, Guaze Bandage, Polyester Cotton blended suiting & shirting handloom cotton bed durriss furnishes, silk sarees etc. The data on value of cloth annually consumed by each of the consuming Ministry, Department, Public Sector Undertaking etc. are not maintained as Khadi & Village Industries Corporation and Women Development Organisation are also supplying cloth to them under STS.

The value of cloth purchased by the various Ministries, public sector undertakings etc. during the year 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95 (upto 31.12.91 under STS from ACASH are as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Ministries	PSUs	Total
1992-93	1080-00	..	1080-00
1993-94	1164-00	..	1164-00
1994-95 (upto 31-12-94)	946-57	54.23	990-80

As already mentioned, besides ACASH, KVIC and Women Development Organisation can also meet the requirement of the Ministries, Departments and Public Sector Undertakings under STS. Hence it is not necessary that entire requirement of the Ministries/Departments and Public Sector Undertakings is purchased from the notified weavers cooperatives of ACASH only.

(d) It is a fact that the matter has not been taken to the Cabinet. However, the matter has been raised with

the Indenting Agencies/Departments including Minisrial level.

(e) No, Sir.

Discouragement of Import of non-quota garments in USA

1208. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Government's Custom Department has recenly taken steps to discourage the import of non-quota items of garments in USA; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) The US Customs Service, from time to time carriages out special checks on shipments imported into USA to verify whether or not the goods imported meet the specific requirements of the various US laws and agreements. In the case of garment exports from India to the USA, there have at various times, been differences in interpretation of the Indo-US Bilateral Textile Agreement between the Indian side on the one hand and the US side on the other. In such circumstances, the US Customs Service, holds up Indian goods at the port of entry. In all cases in the past, these differences have been settled to the satisfaction of the both sides.

Measures to boost jute exports

1209 SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take corrective steps with regard to the decline of jute exports in dollar and in rupee terms during the first nine months of 1994-95 as revealed in a background note on textile exports made availabde to the Consultative Committee attached to the Textile Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Government have already taken a number of ameliorative measures to boost the export of jute and jute goods including, inter-alia participating in international fairs, organising buyer-seller meets, liaising with importers and end users, funding R and D activities to develop a new range of diversified jute products to suit consumer preferences, External Market Assistance Scheme, setting of a Naional Centre for Jute Diversification, launching of a UNDP assisted National Jute Development Programme proportionately funded by the Government of India. As a result of these measures, Government expects to achieve its target of US $ 110 million stipulated for the current year.

राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम के प्रबंध निदेशक कार्यालयों का कार्यकरण

1210. **श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह मंगरोला** : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम (एन.टी.सी.) के अधीन विभिन्न प्रबंध निदेशक कार्यालयों के कार्यान्वयन तथा उनमें व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार के संबंध में कोई शिकायत मिली है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका पिछले दो वर्षों का कार्यालयवार ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार ने नवंबर, 1994 तक इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकट स्वामी) : (क) से (ग) सचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभापटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।